

Talking Points – Washington Industrial Roundtable Business Executives

June 11, 2014 – 12:00 p.m.

Ten minute opening remarks on your work as HPSCI Chairman:

- Around the world – we see what happens when there is a lack of American leadership. Ukraine, Syria, Iraq.
- As business leaders, you know how indispensable American leadership is. If we don't take the responsibility to provide leadership in the world, who will? Russia? China? How will that serve America's interests?
- Terrorist safe havens have developed in Pakistan, Libya, Syria, Iraq, Yemen, and Somalia. Al Qa'ida and their affiliates control more territory now than ever before; just yesterday they took control of Iraq's third largest city.
- And now we have announced to the Taliban and Al Qa'ida that our military will leave Afghanistan completely by 2016. This timeline will allow them to further their growing operational capability in Northeastern Afghanistan in the meantime – endangering our remaining troops in Afghanistan and the Afghan government.
- Further, we have just cut a deal with the Taliban, giving them legitimacy, releasing five of their leaders and putting a price on every American serving overseas.
- Another top priority of mine is moving cyber security legislation this year. You all have intellectual property and I am sure have been targeted by some unwelcome visitors residing in Beijing or Shanghai.
- We have to protect the intellectual property that drives job creation in American. And I know that we can do it in a way that protects privacy. All the key leaders including the White House are on board, it's simply about how we do it. I just met with Senators Feinstein and Chambliss again and am confident we can move something this year on information sharing of cyber threats.